

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): DeMEUTER et al. )  
 )  
Appln No.: (New Application) )  
 )  
Filed: Herewith )  
 )  
For: SUGAR-FREE HARD COATINGS )  
PREPARED FROM LIQUID )  
MIXTURES OF ERYTHRITOL AND )  
SORBIT )  
 )  
Group Art )  
Unit: 1761 )  
 )  
Examiner: Leslie A. Wong )

**GENERAL AUTHORIZATION FOR PETITION FOR  
EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3)**

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

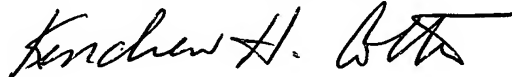
Sir:

Applicant(s) hereby request under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3) by this general authorization that any concurrent or future reply submitted by Applicant(s) to the United States Patent and Trademark Office for the above-identified patent application requiring a petition for an extension of time under §1.136(a) for its timely submission be treated as incorporating therein a petition for an extension of time for the appropriate length of time.

If Applicant(s) do not timely pay for any extension fee(s) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) which may become due for this application under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 by check, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee(s), and any additional fees which may be required in this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17 during its entire pendency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1135, under Order No. 7393/80563.

July 25, 2003

Date



Kendrew H. Colton

Registration No. 30,368

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY  
Suite 401L  
1801 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006.  
Telephone: (202) 419-7000  
Facsimile: (202) 419-7007